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HOW TO... Publish your videos to the web for free

Want to share your videos with friends? Jim Martin guides you through uploading, and cutting out the boring bits

While many mobile phones and digital cameras can record video good enough to rival that of entry-level camcorders, you still can't email the resulting videos to your friends and family as the files tend to be too large. So uploading video to websites such as www.youtube.com and www.gofish.com remains the simplest way to share them for now.

Roxio Buzz Lite, which you can download for free from <http://tinyurl.com/yr9fd5>, makes the often time-consuming and involved process of editing down video clips easy and quick. What's more, it will upload the results simultaneously to YouTube, GoFish and Microsoft's Silverlight video-streaming service, ensuring your video meets the file type and size requirements for each site, and optimising the video and audio quality for each along the way.

1 Download and install Buzz Lite, then launch it. The interface is simple. However, it will accept only one video file so you can't join several files together. Locate the file that you want to publish and drag and drop it on to Buzz Lite's main window. Alternatively, you can choose a selection of photos and an MP3, WMA or Wav audio track to make an animated slideshow.

2 Look for the Preview/Edit switch on the left of the main playback control. Slide this to Edit mode. You can now edit your video by choosing the parts you want to delete, clicking on the scissors button

and then selecting the precise area in the timeline. Repeat this with all portions you want to delete.

If you decide you want to restore a portion you've cut out, simply move the cursor over the section you've cut and click the scissors button again. There are also undo and redo buttons at the top. Slide the switch back to Preview when you're done and you can see how your final video will look.

3 Click the Share button. This will display the uploading options screen, where you can click on the logos of the sites to which you want to upload. The first time you upload, Buzz will go through the process of linking to your accounts on YouTube, GoFish and Silverlight. If you don't have an account, Buzz provides links to the registration pages. You'll then see a screen where you enter information in the Title, Description and Tags boxes, helping people find your videos. You can also select categories if uploading to YouTube or GoFish. Finally, choose whether to make your video public or private by clicking the appropriate button.

4 Click Done and Buzz will transcode the video into a format compatible with the sites you've selected. Depending on the length of your video and the speed of your computer, this can take anything from a few seconds to 10 minutes. Once the upload is complete, you're given the code to paste into your HTML editor for Silverlight, and the URLs for your YouTube and GoFish videos. **CS**

